Abstract of the Disclosure

A compliance preserving method and device for access control of a standard compliant multimedia bitstream. The access control method performs selective encryption on information in the bitstream and then remaps the encrypted information into the bitstream, to provide a multimedia bitstream that is accessible to users with a proper key. The method can be applied to both error resilient mode and non-error resilient mode bitstreams. Additionally, the selective encryption method can be used with variable length code (VLC) codewords or fixed length code (FLC) codewords of a bitstream.